

**From:** Cynthia Caporale/ESC/R3/USEPA/US  
**Sent:** 3/6/2012 9:07:53 AM

**To:** [Ex. 4 - CBI]  
**CC:** Dave Russell/ESC/R3/USEPA/US@EPA; [Ex. 4 - CBI]; Gary Newhart/CI/USEPA/US@EPA;  
John Gilbert/CI/USEPA/US@EPA; Kelley Chase/R3/USEPA/US@EPA; [Ex. 4 - CBI];  
Robin Costas/ESC/R3/USEPA/US@EPA; [Ex. 4 - CBI];  
Burchette/ERT/R2/USEPA/US@EPA  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: Re: Verification/Completeness Check for NEL Reports (Micro) Week 1 Posted Feb 27

[Ex. 4 - CBI]

We agree with your explanation.

Thanks,  
Cindy

Cynthia Caporale, Chief  
OASQA Laboratory Branch  
U.S. EPA Region III  
Environmental Science Center  
Fort Meade, MD  
(410) 305-2732  
Fax: (410) 305-3095

**From:** [Ex. 4 - CBI]  
**To:** Cynthia Caporale/ESC/R3/USEPA/US@EPA  
**Cc:** [Ex. 4 - CBI]@lmco.com>, Gary Newhart/CI/USEPA/US@EPA, John Gilbert/CI/USEPA/US@EPA,  
Kelley Chase/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, [Ex. 4 - CBI], [Ex. 4 - CBI], Sella Burchette/ERT/R2/USEPA/US@EPA,  
Robin Costas/ESC/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Dave Russell/ESC/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, [Ex. 4 - CBI]  
[Ex. 4 - CBI]  
**Date:** 03/06/2012 09:04 AM  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: Re: Verification/Completeness Check for NEL Reports (Micro) Week 1 Posted Feb 27

Good Morning Cynthia,

As I re-read the choice of words used in the status report, it becomes apparent that the comment was not phrased properly. We agree with Dave Russell's comments and qualifications. The only item that we didn't agree with was that just because the field blank had results of <1 CFU/mL on the first plate and 3 CFU/mL on the duplicate plate that this impacted the results of 64 CFU/mL on sample HW04 (item #3). We did see the notes that contamination may have been present at the edges of the plates but did not feel that this would negate or qualify the results for HW04. The qualifier of "R" for the HPC method blanks overrides this issue.

I apologize for the confusion. Data are accepted as qualified. If there are any other questions, please don't hesitate to call me.

[Ex. 4 - CBI]

**From:** Cynthia Caporale [mailto:Caporale.Cynthia@epamail.epa.gov]

**Sent:** Monday, March 05, 2012 4:12 PM

**To:** [Ex. 4 - CBI]

**Cc:** [Ex. 4 - CBI]; Gary Newhart; John Gilbert; Kelley Chase; [Ex. 4 - CBI]; Sella Burchette; Robin Costas; Dave Russell

**Subject:** EXTERNAL: Re: Verification/Completeness Check for NEL Reports (Micro) Week 1 Posted Feb 27

Kelley and [Ex. 4 - CBI]

The report on the Dimock Verification/Completeness Check for the NEL Reports (Micro) Week 1 Posted Feb 27 was reviewed and below is the response for your consideration.

NEL Reports Full Micro data package wk1\_batch1 (parts 1 & 2)

1. The laboratory reported a heterotrophic plate count (HPC) value of <1 CFU/mL for FB02. Their raw data shows a secondary plate count of 3 CFU/mL. The data for HW04 was not qualified; however, the auditor noted that the sample may be field contaminated. Based on the results of this field blank, data are not affected.

**Response: The statement: "The data for HW04 was not qualified" needs clarification. According to Table 1 submitted in the validation report, HW04 was qualified as "R(2.5)." The lab can not choose which of the duplicate plates to report or which to ignore. The method calls for reporting an average of the two plates. Further discussion may be warranted.**

You may contact Dave Russell directly to discuss this issue and then send a follow-up email on the decision(s). Dave can be reached at 410-305-2656.

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From: [Ex. 4 - CBI]  
To: Cynthia Caporale/ESC/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Kelley Chase/R3/USEPA/US@EPA  
Cc: John Gilbert/CI/USEPA/US@EPA, Gary Newhart/CI/USEPA/US@EPA, Sella Burchette/ERT/R2/USEPA/US@EPA, [Ex. 4 - CBI]  
[Ex. 4 - CBI]  
Date: 03/05/2012 02:14 PM  
Subject: Verification/Completeness Check for NEL Reports (Micro) Week 1 Posted Feb 27

.....is attached.

**Ex. 4 - CBI**

*Scientific, Engineering, Response and Analytical Services (SERAS)*

**Ex. 4 - CBI**

[attachment "SERAS-172-DSR-030512\_15.docx" deleted by Cynthia Caporale/ESC/R3/USEPA/US]